

# MY GARDEN AND WHAT TO GROW.

No. 167 - - JANUARY, 1935



*Stapelia Pillansii*

## SPECIAL FEATURES FOR JANUARY.

This month we are printing a comprehensive list of plants of the rarer **Succulents** which we are sure you will find most interesting. **Bulbs** were listed in December and we still have copies of that number. In case yours has been lost or given away, a postcard will bring another. The article on **Mushrooms** will certainly be read with great interest by many and the article on **Delphiniums** by "Eden" will be found most instructive. Although this is not the best time for **Carnations** we can still offer a number of varieties as you will see from the list printed and they should do well if you can establish them now.

*Issued by the Associated Firms*

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## A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

We take pleasure in wishing our friends far and wide a Happy and Prosperous New Year. We hope the seeds you sow may always germinate and that your crops may thrive and bring you a big harvest in the fulness of time. Not the least of the pleasures of gardening lies in the tending and care of the plants and we hope your labours in this regard will always bring you a rich reward.

## SEEDS AND SOWING.

By H. CHAS. STARKE, F.R.H.S.

In hot and dry weather such as usually prevails here at the Cape in January it is difficult to advise about seed sowing but we must also consider other parts of the country and there are numerous crops that can be sown now if the local conditions are favourable. It follows that our remarks must be read in the light of local experience and the weather conditions prevailing in your particular locality. Another point that has a most important bearing on this subject is the soil conditions on the actual spot to be sown. Experienced gardeners are well aware that it is frequently possible to germinate a particular variety of seed on a given spot when it would certainly fail not more than three or four feet away on account of unfavourable conditions prevailing there. A week later the same seed may be successful in the less favourable position also.

These are points that must be ascertained by careful observation by the grower and our remarks can only help him. They can not instruct him for the particular occasion. This is not a matter about which clear and concise instructions can be laid down. We always like to emphasise this because we believe its realisation goes a long way towards helping the beginner to acquire the necessary experience on which to base his decisions.

For field sowing in January where conditions are favourable, the following crops are suitable: Maize, Sorghum, Broom Corn, Millet, Cowpeas, Rape, Kale, Mustard. These will be mostly sown as forage crops, either for green feeding or for hay or silage.

For the Vegetable Garden there are numerous crops that may be sown—it is all a matter of soil and situation—the following may be tried where conditions are favourable: Peas, Cowpeas, French Beans, Lima Beans, Beet, Carrots, Radishes, Swedes, Turnips, Potatoes, Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Kale, Kohl-Rabi, Cucumber, Squash, Vegetable Marrow, Lettuce, Spinach, Chicory, Endive, Tomato.

## IMPORTED SEED POTATOES.

Sales have been heavy during the month and we are compelled to withdraw two or three varieties from the list, but a good selection still remains.

Cases are of one-bushel size, weight approximately 66lbs net.

Arran Chief, Maincrop, grown in Scotland	...	16/6 per case.
Arran Crest, First Early, grown in Scotland	...	16/6 per case.
Arran Rose, First Early, grown in Scotland	...	16/6 per case.
Dutch Up-To-Date, Main Crop, grown in Holland	...	12/6 per case.
Early Rose, First Early, grown in France	...	12/6 per case.
Edzell Blue, Second Early, grown in Scotland	...	16/6 per case.
Flourball, Early Maincrop, grown in Scotland	...	16/6 per case.
Up-To-Date, Main Crop, grown in Scotland	...	16/6 per case.

The above are offered subject to being unsold and 5 per cent. can be deducted if Cash is sent with Order.



## Use Starke's Poultry Foods

We make a SPECIAL MIXTURE for EVERY POULTRY PURPOSE.

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## CONDITIONS OF SALE.

We give no guarantee express or implied (and none of our representatives is authorised to vary this condition in any way) as to description, quality or productiveness or as to any other matter of any seeds we sell, and we are not in any way responsible for them or in respect of the crop or failure of the crop. All quotations are given and orders accepted only on the understanding that these conditions are agreed to.

## VEGETABLE TRANSPLANTS.

We give below a list of plants that we expect to have ready during this month. Some of these are now ready, but others will not be ready till about the middle of the month or later. All orders are dealt with in rotation and will be despatched when the plants are ready. If you are unable to wait, please mark your order accordingly and we will send only what is ready, cancelling the remaining portion of the order. F.

	Posted (Within the Union)		Local Prices.	
	Per 100	1000	100	1000
Beet, Blood Red ... ..	2/-	12/6	1/3	8/6
Beet, Flat Egyptian ... ..	2/-	12/6	1/3	8/6
Brussels Sprouts ... ..	2/-	12/6	1/3	8/6
Cabbage, Cape Spitzkool ... ..	2/-	12/6	1/3	8/6
Cabbage, Copenhagen Market ... ..	2/-	12/6	1/3	8/6
Cabbage, Early Drumhead ... ..	2/-	12/6	1/3	8/6
Cabbage, Early Jersey Wakefield ... ..	2/-	12/6	1/3	8/6
Cabbage, Golden Acre ... ..	2/-	12/6	1/3	8/6
Cabbage, Green Globe Savoy ... ..	2/-	12/6	1/3	8/6
Cabbage, Starke's Improved Spitzkool ... ..	2/-	12/6	1/3	8/6
Cape Gooseberry (9d. doz., posted 1/3) ... ..	5/3	—	4/6	—
Cauliflower, All the year round ... ..	2/-	12/6	1/3	8/6
Cauliflower, Doble's Early ... ..	2/-	12/6	1/3	8/6
Cauliflower, Southern Cross ... ..	2/-	12/6	1/3	8/6
Cauliflower, Early Italian Giant ... ..	2/-	12/6	1/3	8/6
Cauliflower, Super Snowball ... ..	2/-	12/6	1/3	8/6
Cauliflower, Veitch's Autumn Giant ... ..	2/-	12/6	1/3	8/6
Egg Plant, Long Purple (1/- doz., posted 1/6) ... ..	6/-	—	5/-	—
Kale, Chou Moellier ... ..	2/-	12/6	1/3	8/6
Kale, Tall Curled ... ..	2/-	12/6	1/3	8/6
Kale, Thousand-Headed ... ..	2/-	12/6	1/3	8/6
Kohi Rabi, Early White Vienna ... ..	2/-	12/6	1/3	8/6
Lettuce, Curled Neapolitan ... ..	2/-	12/6	1/3	8/6
Lettuce, New York ... ..	2/-	12/6	1/3	8/6
Spinach Beet, Green Cutting ... ..	2/-	12/6	1/3	8/6
Spinach Beet, Yellow Cutting ... ..	2/-	12/6	1/3	8/6
Tomatoes (9d. doz., posted 1/3) ... ..	2/-	15/-	1/6	10/6

Varieties: Livingston's Coreless, Wood's Improved Beauty and Trophy

Lavender, Mint, Sage, Thyme, Rosemary, 3/- doz., posted 3/6

## CHESHUNT COMPOUND.

This well-known fungicide is easily prepared by taking 2 parts (by weight) of copper sulphate and 11 parts ammonium carbonate. Crush the ammonium carbonate to a fine powder and thoroughly mix it with the copper sulphate. The mixture can be kept in a tightly corked glass or stone jar and must not be used within 24 hours of mixing. The solution is prepared by dissolving 1 ounce of the mixture in a little hot water, then adding cold water to make 2 gallons. Vessels of iron, tin or zinc should not be used for the solution owing to its corrosive action and the fact that they cause the solution to lose its strength. Only sufficient solution for immediate use should be prepared.

## THE FLOWER GARDEN.

**Seeds to Sow.**—Where conditions are favourable you may sow the following during this month: Alyssum, Antirrhinum, Aster, Balsam, Barberton Daisy, Begonia, Campanula, Cannas, Carnation, Celosia, Calceolaria, Cineraria, Cockscomb, Coleus, Cosmos, Cyclamen, Dahlia, Delphinium, Dianthus, Gaillardia, Geum, Gilia, Gloxinia, Gypsophila, Helichrysum, Hunnemannia, Leptosyne, Mignonette, Nasturtium, Nicotiana, Pansy, Petunia, Phlox, Portulaca, Primulus, Salpiglossis, Scabious, Statice, Stocks, Sunflower, Sutherlandia, Sweet Sultan, Sweet William, Thunbergia, Tropaeolum and Zinnia.



## BEDDING AND BORDER PLANTS.

We give below a list of plants that we expect to have ready during the month. Some of these are now ready but others will not be ready till about the middle of the month or later. All orders are dealt with in rotation and will be despatched when the plants are ready. If you are unable to wait, please mark your order accordingly and we will send only what is ready, cancelling the remaining portion of the order. F.

	Posted (Within the Union)		Local Prices	
	Per doz.	100	doz.	100
<b>ZINNIAS.</b>				
<b>California Giants:</b> Orange Queen, Rose Queen and Scarlet Gem, separately or mixed ... ..	1/3	6/-	1/-	5/-
<b>Dahlia Flowered:</b> Crimson Monarch, Exquisite, Golden Dawn and Golden State, separately or mixed ... ..	1/3	6/-	1/-	5/-
<b>GENERAL LIST OF BEDDING PLANTS.</b>				
<b>Antirrhinum Majus</b> , mixed ... ..	1/3	6/-	1/-	5/-
<b>Bellis perennis</b> , Double Daisies ... ..	1/3	6/-	1/-	5/-
<b>Petunia</b> , Gloria, bright rosy magenta, white throat ... ..	1/3	6/-	1/-	5/-
<b>Phlox Drummondii</b> ... ..	1/3	6/-	1/-	5/-
<b>Portulaca</b> , mixed ... ..	1/3	6/-	1/-	5/-
<b>GENERAL LIST OF HERBACEOUS PLANTS.</b>				
<b>Agapanthus</b> , blue and white varieties ... ..	7/6	—	6/-	40/-
<b>Agapanthus</b> , Table Mountain variety, dark blue ... ..	4/6	—	4/-	25/-
<b>Alternanthera</b> , edging plant ... ..	2/6	12/6	2/-	10/-
<b>Aquilegia</b> , Blackmore & Langdon's long-spurred hybrids ... ..	2/6	12/6	2/-	10/-
<b>Barberton Daisy Hybrids</b> ... ..	6/-	—	5/-	—
<b>Campanula fragilis</b> ... ..	6/6	—	6/-	—
<b>Canterbury Bells</b> , mixed seedlings ... ..	2/-	10/-	1/6	7/6
<b>Cheiranthus kewensis</b> , winter-blooming Wallflower ... ..	2/6	12/6	2/-	10/-
<b>Delphinium</b> , Belladonna, best for cut-flower Seedlings ... ..	3/6	—	3/-	—
<b>Delphinium</b> , Blackmore & Langdon's Prize Strain ... ..	5/8	—	5/-	—
<b>Delphinium</b> , Blue Butterfly ... ..	2/6	—	2/-	—
<b>Delphinium</b> , Excelsior Strain ... ..	4/-	—	3/6	—
<b>Foxgloves</b> , Choice Mixed ... ..	2/6	12/6	2/-	10/-
<b>Fuchsias</b> , ex pots 1/- each, posted 1/3 ... ..	10/6	—	9/-	—
<b>Gazania</b> , orange ... ..	2/6	12/6	2/-	10/-
<b>Geranium</b> , Ivy-Leaved, pink ... ..	5/-	32/6	4/-	25/-
<b>Geranium</b> , Ivy-Leaved Huntsman, red ... ..	5/-	32/6	4/-	25/-
<b>Geranium</b> , Zonal, bedding ... ..	5/-	32/6	4/-	25/-
<b>Geranium</b> , Zonal, Paul Crampel ... ..	5/-	32/6	4/-	25/-
<b>Granadilla</b> , ex pots 1/- each, posted 1/3 ... ..	9/-	—	7/6	—
<b>Gypsophila paniculata</b> ... ..	5/-	—	4/6	—
<b>Hollyhock</b> , Chater's Double ... ..	2/6	12/6	2/-	10/-
<b>Hydrangeas</b> ... ..	—	—	—	—
... 2/6 and 3/6 each	—	—	—	—
<b>Impatiens</b> , Mixed, out of pots ... ..	6/6	—	6/-	—
<b>Iresine aureo-reticulata</b> ... ..	2/6	12/6	2/-	10/6
<b>Iresine Herbstii</b> ... ..	2/6	12/6	2/-	10/6
<b>Lavender</b> , English (L. spica) ... ..	3/6	—	3/-	—
<b>Lavender</b> , French (L. dentata) ... ..	4/6	—	4/-	—
<b>Nasturtium</b> , Fireball, ex pots (1/- each) ... ..	10/-	—	9/-	—
<b>Nasturtium</b> , Golden Gleam, in 4in. pots, 1/- each; ex pots ... ..	6/-	—	5/-	—
<b>Nasturtium</b> , Scarlet Gleam 1/- each out of pots ... ..	—	—	—	—



GENERAL LIST OF HERBACEOUS PLANTS.	Posted (Within the Union)		Local Prices	
	Per doz.	100	doz.	100
Pelargoniums in variety ... ..	10/6	—	9/-	—
Pentstemon, large-flowered, mixed ... ..	4/6	—	3/6	—
Polyanthus, Blackmore & Langdon's Special ... ..	7/-	—	6/-	—
Salvia farinacea ... ..	4/6	—	4/-	—
Salvia patens, ex pots ... ..	6/-	—	5/-	—
Salvia splendens, scarlet ... ..	3/-	—	2/6	—
Salvia splendens, Tom Thumb, Vesuvius ... ..	3/-	—	2/6	—
Salvia violacea, Maroon Prince, ex pots ... ..	6/-	—	5/-	—
Salvia coccinea, dwarf ... ..	3/-	—	2/6	—
Sedum, yellow-flowered, for carpeting in damp situations, per clump 1/- ... ..	—	—	—	—
Statice latifolia (1/- each, posted 1/6) ... ..	9/-	—	8/-	—
Statice macrophylla (1/- each, posted for 1/6), a good rockery plant ... ..	9/-	—	8/-	—
Thalictrum (1/- each, posted 1/6) ... ..	9/-	—	8/-	—

### POT PLANTS.

We always have a fine selection of ornamental plants for pot culture and invite inspection at our Nurseries, Liesbeek Road, Rosebank. Many fine specimens can also be seen in our Cape Town Flower Shop at 12, Adderley Street. We mention a few below.

**Begonias, Tuberous.**—In brilliant colours, single and double flowering, 2/6 and 3/6 each in pots.

**Coleus.**—Beautiful ornamental foliage, in great variety, 9d. each ex pots. Selected specimens 1/- each.

**Ferns, Maidenhair.**—In splendid variety, 2/- to 5/- each in pots.

**Ferns, Nephrolepis.**—Splendid specimens at 2/- to 5/- each in pots.

**Gloxinias.**—Fine flowering specimens, gorgeous colours, 2/6 and 3/6 each in pots.

**Lily of the Valley.**—Flowering, in 5-inch pots 3/6, 4-inch pots 2/6.

### APPRECIATIONS.

**Port Logan, Scotland, November 5th, 1934.**—The *Mesembrianthemum criniflorum* seed I had from you last year flowered splendidly all summer and was much admired.

**Knysna, November 12th, 1934.**—I had splendid results with my last lot of Starke's Improved Spitzkool, wonderful big cabbage, greatly in demand as owing to the insect pest no one could raise cabbage in this district. Thanks and congratulations.

**Matatiele, November 21st, 1934.**—Thank you very much for the chinkerinchees blooms received on Friday. They are beautiful and it is lovely having them. Once again thank you for the splendid way in which the blooms were packed and so ensured their arrival in perfect condition.

### SHOW SUCCESSES.

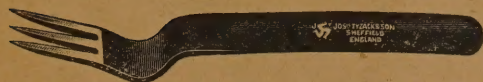
#### Pinelands Horticultural Society, 20th October, 1934.

3 Roses, one variety, named ... ..	First Prize.
12 Roses, distinct named ... ..	Second Prize.
6 Roses, distinct named ... ..	Second Prize.

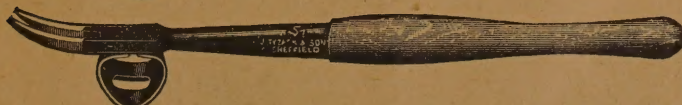
#### The Cape Horticultural Society, 31st October, 1934.

36 Roses, distinct varieties ... ..	First Prize.
24 Roses, distinct varieties ... ..	First Prize.
12 Roses, new ... ..	First Prize.
Champion Rose (Columbia) ... ..	Diploma.

### DAISY GRUBBERS.



No. F72B. 1/- each.



No. F34. 2/6 each.



## TREE CARNATIONS.

This month is an excellent time for planting out Tree Carnations, and we are giving you a fine list to select from, including as it does many of the newest varieties as well as the old and tried favourites. Send your order early to secure the best plants.

**All varieties 3d. less when included in a dozen.**

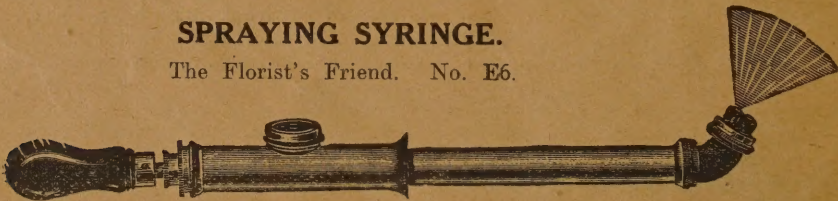
**All varieties 6d. less when included in a hundred.**

**Packing and Postage:** 2/- per dozen, 1/6 per  $\frac{1}{2}$  dozen, 1/- per  $\frac{1}{4}$  dozen or less. This includes box, packing and postage within the Union of South Africa. To other parts the difference in postage will be added. **Price each.**

<b>Batson Darkie.</b> —Deep velvety crimson; large bloom, full and well formed; long strong stems; good non-splitting calyx; very free and healthy grower	1/6
<b>Batson Pearl.</b> —Pale salmon-pink, large flower like Regina but has a very strong scent for a "tree" and is a strong grower	3/6
<b>Belle Washburn.</b> —Brilliant red, large, excellent habit, does not split	1/6
<b>Benora.</b> —Large white striped red	1/6
<b>Betty Lou.</b> —Deep rose, large flowers	2/-
<b>Brilliant.</b> —Brilliant scarlet, medium size	1/6
<b>Butterfly.</b> —White, lightly overlaid crimson-scarlet	2/-
<b>Cameron.</b> —Salmon	2/-
<b>Carola Striata.</b> —Light crimson striped with deep crimson	1/6
<b>Champion.</b> —Bright scarlet, good calyx	2/6
<b>Cinderella.</b> —Light mauvy pink, long stems	1/-
<b>Dandy.</b> —Orange-flame-apricot	2/6
<b>Del Ray.</b> —Deep pink, large and free flowering	2/6
<b>Fanny.</b> —Light pink heavily striped with red	2/-
<b>Glendale.</b> —Rose-madder-pink speckled and edged burnt carmine; petals turned inwards	2/6
<b>Glorious.</b> —Large salmon cerise	2/6
<b>Harlequin.</b> —Yellow ground heavily striped red and some apricot	2/6
<b>Improved Regina.</b> —An improvement on that wonderful grower, Regina, will surely prove an acquisition	3/6
<b>Jackie.</b> —Yellow ground striped mauve	2/6
<b>Kenilworth Scarlet.</b> —Brilliant scarlet, very large, strong grower, long stems	2/-
<b>Laddie.</b> —Light salmon-pink, flowers of good substance and very large	2/6
<b>Lady Hindip.</b> —White pencilled red; well-shaped flowers	1/6
<b>Marjorie (1931).</b> —Deep pink, large and free flowering	3/6
<b>Melchet Beauty.</b> —Heliotrope with cerise stripes and flakes	1/6
<b>Monkton Crimson</b>	2/6
<b>Mrs. Hamilton Fellowes.</b> —Light purple, large blooms, good grower, one of the best of its colour	2/-
<b>Mrs. Maurice Grant.</b> —Purple; exceptionally large flowers	2/6
<b>Nigger.</b> —Deep velvety crimson, nicely scented, non-splitter, freely flowering, strong grower	1/6
<b>Olive.</b> —White ground, picoteed and striped chocolate crimson	3/6
<b>Painted Lady.</b> —White ground flaked with pink	2/-
<b>Striped Regina.</b> —Light salmon-pink striped deep pink	2/6
<b>Triumph.</b> —Bright crimson, large, good shape, calyx does not split	2/-
<b>Violet Mond.</b> —Light purple, large, good shape and good habit of growth	1/6
<b>Yankee Girl.</b> —Deep rose-pink, fairly large	2/-

## SPRAYING SYRINGE.

The Florist's Friend. No. E6.



Complete with Drip Sleeve, Bend, Stuffing Box, Rose and Sprayer, the latter both fitted with ball valve for easy filling.

**Price:** No. E6,  $\frac{7}{8}$ in. x 18in. ... 8/6; Postage 1/-  
 No. E6c, 1in. x 20in. ... 10/6; Postage 1/6



# MUSHROOMS.

By W. M. WARE, M.Sc.

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by permission of the Council.

It is probably true to say that science, in relation to the art of agriculture and horticulture, advances in three stages. Being the younger, it has first to learn the established practice of the farmer or the gardener in any particular branch. Secondly, it may draw level with and even explain the methods of the practical man; but the third stage, viz., that of actually guiding, comes always last of all and usually only when the relationship between science and practice has been long sustained.

Many branches of horticulture, as everyone knows, can present great difficulties to the practical man, and it is then that science is particularly useful; sometimes, however, it may be added, its help is neither welcomed nor afterwards appreciated.

In the cultivation of Mushrooms, with which we are now concerned, it will be agreed that, while the practice is as old as any, there have been few opportunities for an outsider to learn the established practice because of the secrecy preserved. The grower of Mushrooms has jealously guarded his slight knowledge and shrouded the process in such mystery that he appears now to stand aloof and be completely isolated. The result of this reticence, maintained for generations, is that, when some difficulty presents itself, these most secret growers are actually behindhand in their knowledge, and are coming into the open to bewail the fact that nothing is known about such things as substitutes for stable manure or how to stop the ravages of a certain mite.

It is consequently unfortunate that the newcomers, at a time when the Mushroom-growing industry in this country has room for expansion, should find but little help at hand when they desire to progress or to overcome difficulties.

The present account of Mushroom-growing, it may be stated immediately, is largely founded upon information provided by growers of experience, as well as upon some personal acquaintance with the practice. From this it is apparent that not all Mushroom growers are so secretive as may have been inferred, and full acknowledgment is made to those who have not only discussed the known details of the art but also have pointed out where information is lacking. The veil of secrecy has been lifted, and it is at once revealed that to grow Mushrooms successfully both skill and close attention to detail are necessary. A guide to the methods to be employed and a survey of the whole subject has already been published by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in their Bulletin 34, and in the space now available it is possible only to give a short account and to touch upon certain features of special importance or interest.

The first of these is undoubtedly the recent expansion of the industry in England. This is attributed to the duty of 8d. per lb. placed on imported Mushrooms, it being estimated that imports of Mushrooms to the value of at least £500,000 per annum are being replaced on the market by home-grown supplies—a replacement which provides a great opportunity for the British grower. The industry, however, both in England and on the Continent, is a very old one, and has been most famous in proximity to some of the capitals, e.g. Paris, Vienna, and London. In the United States, although established later, it has made great strides, and at the present time the most authoritative information comes from that country.

The commercial cultivation of Mushrooms is carried out entirely by means of specially prepared beds of composted stable manure, and meadow-growing, which has received public attention after one particularly good summer, is not here considered because the season is short and conditions are out of the grower's control. Manure for the beds must be carefully chosen. It should be fresh stable manure, stored in a place free from washing by rain; it should be from cornfed horses and should contain plenty of straw litter. If straw is lacking, more can be added when the heap is first made up for composting. Owing to the very rapid rate of decomposition, the softer straws are to be avoided and wheat or rye straw preferred. The state of the manure when it arrives on a grower's premises varies greatly and its subsequent management must consequently also vary. Much depends on the source of supply, and perhaps the farmer who can store up and accumulate a heap of manure from his own stables is in the most favourable position—he can order the making of the compost from the very beginning. Other growers obtain supplies from towns or from cavalry barracks or racing stables, and this manure arrives on occasions after an unknown series of treatments; it must be dealt with in the way best suited to its condition.

The first step is to build up a heap of any convenient length, about 5 feet high and 6 feet wide, flat at the top and with vertical sides. This heap, except perhaps in a dry summer, must be made under a shed with roof but with little side protection. All these requirements are directed towards securing an even fermentation of the heap.



## MUSHROOMS.

(Continued.)

At the start the moisture-content must be accurately judged and, except in the case of certain manure obtained from town contractors, a small quantity of water is applied with the rose of a water-can to make all the manure moist, as it is thrown up in making the heap. Dry patches require special attention. In summer watering can be done more freely than in winter, but at all times great care is needed not to make the heap too wet. Pressure on the heap should be avoided—tight packing prevents correct fermentation. Heating and steaming of the heap should begin within a day or two: if after several days the manure is still cold, the condition can sometimes be rectified if the cause can be found. Thus, for example, lack of moisture will prevent heating. After about a week the heap is turned; for this purpose two men are usually employed and with forks they throw the manure back from one end of the old heap and so start a new one. Great care is taken to place all manure from the outside of the old heap into the centre of the new; watering of dry patches is carried out when required, and all cohering lumps are well shaken out. The new heap is built up with sides as vertical as possible, but when doing this the compost should not be beaten into position.

Further turnings are given at intervals of three or four days: the number of turnings varies from two to seven and depends on the rate of decomposition of the manure. A period of about three weeks is usually sufficient, and the condition of the compost is judged to be correct if it is dark brown in colour and possesses a sweet and quite unoffensive smell. It should be tested by taking from inside the heap a long double handful which is "sheared off" by twisting the hands in opposite directions; if it is too tough to shear easily, the compost is not ready and the heap should be turned once more. The correct moisture-content is estimated by firmly squeezing a handful; the compost should become compressed by the fingers but drops of liquid should not be exuded and the palm of the hand should be found only just moist and certainly not wet. If a handful be squeezed close to the ear, a wet condition is revealed by the sound of squelching or bubbling. Full attention has been paid to the preparation of the manure, for it must be emphasized that the condition of the medium on which Mushrooms are to be grown is of the greatest importance, many of the failures experienced being traceable to wrongly-made compost.

The beds may be of the flat or ridge type. Flat beds are of such a width that picking can be done on any part without inconvenience, and they are usually 6 to 10 inches deep. They are used for indoor work, on the floor or on shelving. Ridge beds are commonly 2½ feet at the base; they have sloping sides and are about 2 feet high. This type is employed for out-of-door growing; for indoor use the ridges are made slightly smaller. In constructing the beds, the manure is pressed firmly while it is still steaming hot, the amount of pressure depending on the moisture present. If in correct condition, the beds may be trodden, but if rather too wet they should only be beaten down with a fork. After making the beds, their temperature should be watched—it will probably rise to about 140° F., but after a week or ten days it will steadily fall. Often a vigorous growth of moulds appears on the surface, but it seldom does harm. It indicates fully moist conditions and can be stopped if desired by providing good ventilation to dry the surface. When the temperature is on the downward grade and has reached 70° F. it is safe to plant the spawn. Fragments of spawn are inserted in the manure just below the surface; they may be as small as a walnut, but it is preferable to employ rather larger pieces, of about the size of a hen's egg. These are planted in rows at about one foot spacing.

After ten days, if the temperature of the beds is near 60° F., growth of mycelium from the edges of the spawn-fragments becomes apparent by a white fluffy development of hyphae. The mycelium gradually spreads on the nearest pieces of straw, which are covered with the white hyphae, their dark brown colour becoming changed to a lighter tint. Outdoor beds must be covered with a thick layer of straw from the time they are made, this being removed and replaced at every operation. Indoor beds need not be covered with litter except in places with a heated and dry atmosphere or in draughty buildings, where its chief function is to prevent drying of the manure. In very cold conditions the litter helps to preserve some warmth in the beds, but it must never be imagined that the compost is actually a hotbed; in reality the beds are seldom warmer than the air of the building. When by inspection it has been found that growth of the spawn is taking place, the beds are cased. This consists of applying 1½ inch of soil to the surface of the manure, the earth being just moist enough to be beaten down firmly with a spade to make a porous, level covering. On premises long used for Mushroom-growing, or where digging space is limited, it is advisable to use subsoil in order to avoid the occurrence of a fungus disease of Mushrooms known as "Bubbles" and caused by *Mycogone perniciosa*. Casing ridge beds is an art best learned by experience. After casing, the covering of litter may be replaced if thought necessary, but in most indoor places it can be dispensed with.

(To be concluded next month.)



## SUCCULENTS.

These wonderful plants are creating a stir throughout the world. They are so useful for rockeries, and most of them make splendid pot plants, too. Some are very ornamental, others are simply curious, all are very interesting. Try them; they will fascinate you.

**Postage and packing** 1/- extra on orders for less than six plants to any address within the Union of South Africa.

**Postage and packing** will be allowed free within the same radius if six or more are ordered at one time.

Assorted dozens will be charged at the dozen rate.	Price each	doz.
<b>Acrodon bellidiflora.</b> —A very low, dense plant; flowers yellow with pink reverse, produced in spring; suitable for rockeries ... ..	1/-	10/-
<b>Aloe Krapohlana.</b> —Low bushy habit, orange-red flowers ... ..	3/6	—
<b>Aloe sp.</b> (Bechuanaland).—Low-growing type ... ..	1/6	15/-
<b>Anacampseros arachrioides.</b> —Very much like <i>A. telephiastrum</i> but flowers smaller and paler; soon makes a large clump ... ..	1/-	10/-
<b>Anacampseros papyracea.</b> —A rare plant of most peculiar formation, the growths being entirely covered with white, papery scales; when growing among white stones the plant can hardly be detected ... ..	1/-	10/-
<b>Apiera foliosa.</b> —Curious hard-leaved plant with tall flowering stem; allied to the Aloes, closely resembling the Haworthias ... ..	2/-	20/-
<b>Argyroderma testicularis.</b> —Spherical silver-grey growths with large yellow or purple flowers ... ..	1/6	15/-
<b>Bergeranthus scapiger.</b> —Leaves 2 to 3 inches long; flowers bright yellow, often tinted reddish on reverse; long stems ... ..	1/6	—
<b>Bergeranthus vespertinus.</b> —Triangular leaves; very dwarf growth; flowers yellow with orange reverse ... ..	1/-	10/-
<b>Cheirodopsis candidissima.</b> —Flowers white to pale pink ... ..	2/-	—
<b>Cheirodopsis cigarettifera.</b> —A dense Mesembrianthum-like plant the base of which resembles a cigarette-holder; large yellow flowers... ..	1/6	15/-
<b>Cheirodopsis denticulata.</b> —Short thick leaves, compact habit... ..	2/-	20/-
<b>Cheirodopsis paucifolia.</b> —Dome-shaped; short tuberculated leaves ... ..	1/6	15/-
<b>Cheirodopsis peculiaris.</b> —Heart-shaped leaves, large bluish flowers. The curious development of this plant is very interesting to watch ... ..	2/6	—
<b>Cheirodopsis tuberculata.</b> —Like <i>C. cigarettifera</i> ; the growths are covered with minute tubercles ... ..	1/-	10/-
<b>Conophytum minutum var. laxum.</b> —Medium-sized greenish bodies ... ..	1/6	15/-
<b>Conophytum Wettsteinii.</b> —Large flat greenish bodies ... ..	2/6	25/-
<b>Cotyledon terretifolia.</b> —Compact growth, narrow pointed leaves; yellow flowers ... ..	1/-	10/-
<b>Crassula caulescens</b> ... ..	6d.	3/6
<b>Crassula corymbulosa.</b> —Dwarf compact plant, foliage light green tipped pink; pink flowers on long stems ... ..	6d.	3/6
<b>Crassula tetragona.</b> —Bushy habit, a rapid grower, useful as a pot plant ... ..	6d.	3/6
<b>Crassula torquata</b> ... ..	6d.	3/6
<b>Didymaotis lapidiformis.</b> —One of the rarest of the "stone plants"; consists of two brown stemless stone-like leaves, resembling the brown shale among which they grow ... ..	1/6	15/-
<b>Duvalia compacta.</b> —Flowers brown with very light brown margin ... ..	1/-	10/-
<b>Duvalia Corderoyi.</b> —Growths resemble the Stapelias in miniature; flowers jet black, star shaped and hairy ... ..	1/-	10/-
<b>Duvalia pubescens.</b> —Light brown flowers rather larger than most Duvalias, variegated foliage ... ..	1/-	10/-
<b>Duvalia radiata.</b> —A most peculiar plant; flowers small, jet black, star-shaped, freely produced ... ..	1/-	10/-
<b>Euphorbia obesa.</b> —A very rare plant, resembling in shape a miniature football ... ..	5/-	50/-
<b>Euphorbia stellaespina.</b> —One of the few species with forked spines... ..	3/6	—
<b>Fenestraria aurantiaca.</b> —True window plant; small transparent bodies ... ..	1/6	15/-
<b>Gasteria linguiforme.</b> —Gasterias make charming pot plants, this variety has variegated leaves and tall spikes of pink flowers tipped with green ... ..	2/-	20/-
<b>Gasteria natalensis.</b> —Similar to <i>G. linguiforme</i> but without the green tips ... ..	3/6	36/-
<b>Gasteria nitida.</b> —Variegated leaves and pink tubular-shaped flowers with green tips ... ..	3/6	36/-
<b>Gasteria verrucosa.</b> —One of the largest and best of the Gasterias; tall branching flower on stem, 3 to 4 feet; flowers coral, tipped green ... ..	2/6	—



# SUCCULENTS.

(Continued.)

<b>Gibbaeum album.</b> —A dwarf variety, silvery white resembling the quartz among which it is found	2/-	20/-
<b>Gibbaeum dispar.</b> —Somewhat like <i>G. album</i> but of slightly different form; rare	1/6	15/-
<b>Gibbaeum geminum.</b> —Very dwarf and curious	3/6	—
<b>Gibbaeum gibbosum.</b> —Stemless Mesembrianthemum; pale green growths in sub-equal pairs; flowers rosy pink	1/6	15/-
<b>Gibbaeum pachypodium.</b> —The growths of this species are somewhat different from most Gibbaeums, resembling more the Glottiphyllums; flowers a delicate pink shade	1/6	15/-
<b>Gibbaeum perveridae.</b> —Dense mats of green shark's mouth growths, half buried in the soil	1/-	10/-
<b>Gibbaeum pubescens.</b> —Covered with minute silvery white hairs	1/-	10/-
<b>Glottiphyllum depressum.</b> —A handsome, easily grown species; growths short and broad; large golden yellow flowers, freely produced	1/-	10/-
<b>Glottiphyllum linguiforme.</b> —The very sharp upper edge of the leaf readily distinguishes this from other species	1/-	10/-
<b>Glottiphyllum spp.</b> —All species of this genus make excellent specimens, whether in pots or in a rockery	9d.	5/-
<b>Haworthia angustiloba</b>	2/-	20/-
<b>Haworthia cymbeformis.</b> —Flat, compact habit, glossy green leaves	2/-	20/-
<b>Haworthia dentata.</b> —Glossy pale green cone-like plants; flowers more conspicuous than most species of this genus, creamy white, March to May	1/-	10/-
<b>Haworthia planifolia.</b> —Growths glossy and very transparent; compact habit	2/-	20/-
<b>Haworthia retusa.</b> —Compact growth, glossy appearance	3/-	—
<b>Haworthia viscosa.</b> —A hardy species, compact growth, very suitable for rockeries and pot culture	2/-	20/-
<b>Haworthia viscosa</b> var. <b>pseudo-tortuosa.</b> —Hard leaved plant, not so compact as <i>H. viscosa</i>	2/-	20/-
<b>Hereroa dolabriformis.</b> —A dwarf clumpy plant with orange flowers with pink reverse; useful for rockeries or for pot culture	1/-	10/-
<b>Hereroa glenensis.</b> —Compact habit, leaves covered with minute tubercles	2/-	20/-
<b>Hereroa granulata.</b> —A dwarf Mesembrianthemum bearing bright orange flowers	1/-	10/-
<b>Hereroa Stanleyi.</b> —This species produces an abundance of bright yellow flowers	1/-	10/-
<b>Huernia scabra.</b> —Flowers light brown with violet spots	1/6	15/-
<b>Lithops mickbergensis</b>	2/-	20/-
<b>Mesembrianthemum divergens.</b> —Stunted cluster of fleshly twin-leaves; flowers profusely; formerly listed as <i>M. obtusum</i>	1/-	10/-
<b>Mesembrianthemum fissioides.</b> —Long cylindrical leaves; flowers light yellow shading to white at the tips	1/3	12/6
<b>Mitrophyllum sp.</b> —To the layman this would appear to be the link between the stemless Mesembrianthemums and the shrubby types	3/6	—
<b>Muiria hortensiae.</b> —Has a remarkable resemblance to the grey stones among which it grows	2/6	25/-
<b>Odontophorus primulinus.</b> —Compact habit; short thick toothed leaves	1/6	15/-
<b>Pleiospilos Bolusi.</b> —A stemless Mesembrianthemum with brownish stone-like growths in pairs; large yellow flowers; this is the typical stone plant	2/6	25/-
<b>Pleiospilos simulans.</b> —A stemless Mesembrianthemum with brownish flat succulent growths in pairs; bright yellow flowers	3/6	36/-
<b>Rimaria Heathii.</b> —Perfect spheres of a silvery colour, aggregating to dome-shaped clumps. A very beautiful plant	1/-	10/-
<b>Ringentia</b> sp.	1/-	10/-
<b>Rochea Coccinea.</b> —The common red crassula of Table Mountain which is a very popular rockery subject here at the Cape; produces conspicuous heads of red flowers	2/-	20/-
<b>Ruschia microphylla.</b> —Cushion-shaped clusters with minute pointed leaves, make a brave show of colour in the springtime	1/9	18/-
<b>Sempervivum arborescens.</b> —Shrubby habit, drought resistant, glossy foliage, large pyramidal trusses of yellow flowers	1/-	10/-
<b>Stapelia conformis.</b> —Flowers large of a pinkish shade and covered with hairy growths	1/6	15/-



## SUCCULENTS.

(Continued.)

<b>Stapelia flavirostris.</b> —Greyish hairy flowers ... ..	1/6	15/-
<b>Stapelia hirsutus.</b> —A tall species of purplish black flowers covered with hairy protusions ... ..	1/6	15/-
<b>Stapelia Pillansii.</b> —Very similar to <i>S. hirsutus</i> but the flower is a pinkish colour and without the hairy protusions ... ..	1/6	15/-
<b>Stapelia variegata.</b> —The foliage of this species is particularly pleasing; very suitable for miniature rockeries ... ..	9d.	5/-
<b>Stapelia verrucosa.</b> —Resembles <i>S. variegata</i> but the spots are smaller and the petals fold back showing a purplish centre, very free-flowering ... ..	9d.	5/-
<b>Stomatium Comptonii.</b> —Small dense circular mats, leaves slightly toothed, flowers bright yellow. A very pretty new species ... ..	1/-	10/-
<b>Stomatium Fulleri.</b> —Dwarf pale green growths, peculiarly warted and toothed; flowers freely in spring and early summer ... ..	1/-	10/-
<b>Stomatium mustelinum.</b> —Similar to the <i>Faucarias</i> but has a more spreading habit and grows more rapidly; can stand very dry conditions but prefers a well-drained situation with a good supply of water... ..	1/-	10/-
<b>Trichodiaderma densum</b> ... ..	1/9	18/-

## NOTES FOR JANUARY.

By "EDEN."

### DELPHINIUMS.

Our exceptionally warm summer temperatures make the *Delphinium* a comparatively short-lived plant locally, which probably is the reason why named varieties of this handsome flower are not grown to any extent in this country.

In cooler climates propagation by division of the crowns makes possible the perpetuation of outstanding seedlings.

Such seedlings are given variety names, just as is done with any other perennial plants. Year after year new seedlings are raised and, because all seedling plants have a tendency to vary, there are bound to be some that are either different in form, or sometimes vastly superior to those already in cultivation.

With some plants this variation is so marked and occurs so frequently that quite a host of new varieties are available each season. This is especially true of Dahlias, for instance, and results in varieties introduced two or three seasons before becoming out of date quite rapidly.

With other plants again there is not so great a tendency for the seedlings to vary or sometimes quite a large percentage revert to very ordinary forms, quite inferior to those already in cultivation. With such plants, new varieties, or varieties which can claim to be an improvement on those already in existence, are rare, and in many cases only half-a-dozen or so are introduced annually. Roses and Carnations, and many kinds of bulbs, are garden plants of this type.

Of course with some plants the seedlings take several years to flower, so that even though there may be sufficient variation amongst them, the job of raising new sorts requires a great deal of patience and for that reason is undertaken by few gardeners.

With any garden plant, the fact that several varieties exist, and that new ones are continually being raised, adds interest to that plant from the gardener's point of view, quite apart from its merits as a garden plant or as a cut flower.

In fact it is remarkable how many gardeners find as much pleasure in collecting varieties as they do in the actual growing of them.

It is the combination of these interests that leads to the formation of specialist clubs or societies for this or that particular plant or flower.

In the lists of overseas nurserymen one will find scores of named varieties of *Delphiniums* listed amongst the herbaceous perennials. The roots offered are propagated vegetatively, or, to put it more clearly, they are produced by splitting up old crowns of the previous season.

It is doubted whether there is a single local nurseryman who could offer even one named variety of *Delphinium* raised in this way.

Of course such crowns are considerably dearer than those raised from seed, not alone because seedlings are cheaper to raise, but the supervision and care necessary to prevent these named sorts getting mixed is a big item in the nurseryman's cost of production.

So the fact of the matter is that those of you who want to grow *Delphiniums* must either raise them from seed or buy plants or crowns raised in this way.

There are many types of *Delphinium* and several strains of each type. Seed of some strains is remarkably cheap, others very expensive, and unfortunately price is not always proof of its quality, although it is generally a good indication.



## "EDEN'S" NOTES FOR JANUARY.

### DELPHINIUMS—(Continued).

Then again there is the purpose for which you want to grow them. One type will provide the best cut flower, another will be most suitable to make a bold show in the herbaceous border, while the dwarfier types are best for bedding.

Conditions in your particular garden too may confine you to one or two types, depending upon whether your soil is a cool, moist one or whether it becomes hot and dry during the summer.

The giant-flowered hybrids are probably the type which nine out of ten would call to mind when talking about Delphiniums. As garden plants they certainly are the most outstanding, but it is essential that they should be well grown to be really striking. The flower spikes of this type often reach a height of five and even six feet, and the colour varies from pale blue to rich royal blue; white is occasionally met with but the flowers are seldom attractive, being usually a washy cream shade.

The individual flowers are either single, semi-double or sometimes quite double.

The most popular strain of this type are Blackmore & Langdon's Gold Medal Hybrids, which are generally considered to produce the largest percentage of outstanding specimens.

As cut flowers these giants can hardly be recommended as they are inclined to flop when cut except during a spell of cool weather.

The Excelsior Hybrids are less massive and produce many more flower spikes per plant. They branch more freely too. The colour range in this strain is even greater than with the Blackmore & Langdon strain.

Provided they are carefully handled when cut, these Excelsior hybrids make a splendid class of cut flower.

The seed of this strain is extremely low in price while the germination is good, even late in the season.

Another strain of giants is the Formosum Hybrids. With these the colour is a more uniform shade of blue, while in most other respects they resemble the Excelsior Strain.

The Hollyhock-flowered Delphinium is a more recently introduced strain, but unfortunately the type is not too well fixed yet. Quite a large number of the seedlings produce flowers no better than the older sorts, yet they are worth growing for the sake of those which come true to type.

As a cut flower the Belladonna Delphinium is in a class by itself. The spikes are not nearly so tall as the Giant Hybrids, nor are they so clumsy.

This type is remarkably free, flowering under favourable conditions from October to May, while it is also more suited to our hot summer weather.

Most strains of Belladonna Delphiniums are uniform in colour, the most popular being the pale blue. There is also a deep blue strain and a recently introduced improved type, somewhat deeper in colour than the pale blue.

The seed of Belladonna Delphiniums is fairly dear, but the germination is usually so much better than that of most other types that in reality it is probably the cheapest in the end.

Of the Dwarf Delphiniums for bedding work the Blue Butterfly is the most popular and is certainly a showy flower for the purpose. It is easy to grow and remains in flower for a long time.

Quite recently a strain of annual Delphiniums has been introduced. In appearance and habit of growth they resemble the Blue Butterfly type although they are a little taller and the flower spikes are not so bushy. A light blue and a deep blue variety are available at present.

With our mild winters it is likely that this type will live for two or three seasons in cool, moist soil, that is if they survive the late summer heat.

Red Delphiniums are often talked about but seldom seen. Delphinium Nudicaule is red but it is a rather poor thing compared with most other Delphiniums. Quite a noise has been made recently about a red strain of Giant Delphiniums produced in England, but it is understood that these will not be put into commerce for another two or three years.

Just which strain or type you should grow is a matter which you must decide for yourself.

Those of you who have a cool, well-drained, moist soil, especially if it is one that grows most flowers successfully, will find it possible to grow any type to perfection. If, however, your garden is one of those where it is a struggle to keep things alive during the summer, then it is advisable to grow either the Belladonna or the Blue Butterfly types, or you might try the Annual type.

If you have never raised Delphiniums from seed before, do not spend a lot of money on seed until you are sure you can germinate it successfully. Try a little at first. At this time of the year the seed bed should be depressed, so that it can be flooded occasionally.



## "EDEN'S" NOTES FOR JANUARY.

### DELPHINIUMS—(Continued).

A well-prepared seed bed should consist of nice friable sandy loam, fine in texture, and deeply worked. Rake the surface until you have it perfectly level.

The seed may be sown broadcast or in drills three or four inches apart. On a small seed bed you can make nice neat drills by pressing a piece of wood about an inch wide and as long as the seed bed, into the surface of the soil. These drills should be about half-an-inch deep. In the case of drills the seed should be covered to the depth of the drill. When the seed is sown broadcast, firm down the surface of the soil, after sowing the seed, with a flat board or anything else that will serve the purpose.

Sprinkle fine sandy loam over the seed until all the seed appears to be covered, again firm the surface, go on doing this until no seed can be seen.

Now sprinkle a final layer over the surface of the seed bed. This last layer must not be firmed down.

The seed bed must be thoroughly moist before the seed is sown. A good plan is to flood it several times the day before so that it will be in nice condition for raking when you come to sow the seed.

If your soil is inclined to form a crust, sowing the seed in drills is almost essential. Fill the drills with specially prepared soil of a sandy nature.

Delphinium seed takes at least fourteen days to germinate, and must be kept moist during that time. Unless you are at home during the day this may be almost impossible at this time of the year. Cover the seed bed with wet bags or hessian, but they must be removed on the thirteenth or fourteenth day or as soon as ever you see any sign of germination. Keep the bed well watered after the sacking is removed for a few days. Once the little plants commence to make their second leaves, watering can be done less often.

You may consider it very late to think about raising seedlings now but you will be surprised how rapidly they grow, and how quickly they come into flower after transplanting. Of course the giants will not produce very large spikes the first season, but they will make fine crowns for the following spring.

With the Belladonna type, plants raised from seed sown now will produce their best flowers when those which have flowered since the spring are past their best.

In so far as the actual growing of the plants is concerned, the kind of success you will get from them is largely a matter of the condition of the soil in your garden, and depends most on how you have treated that soil in previous years. So many of us are inclined to believe that it is simply a matter of doing this or that to the soil to get a fine show from any plant.

On soils that have been well worked and well fed for several seasons you can do anything or nothing to the soil and you will get good results, while in an unhealthy soil, that is one that has been badly handled in past years, you can do everything and get nothing but failure. It is all a matter of good cultivation all the time. Delphiniums like a rich soil but you might do a great deal more harm than good by giving a heavy dressing of manure and fertilisers a week or two before planting time.

If you are going to grow your own seedlings, commence to prepare the ground for the young plants at the same time as you prepare the seed beds, do not wait until the plants are ready for planting out.

A good dressing of manure dug in a month or two beforehand can do a lot of good and is not likely to do any harm.

When the young plants have settled down nicely after transplanting a sprinkling of Nitrate of Soda or General Garden Fertiliser can be worked into the surface of the soil.

From now on you will have to bear two things in mind, the one is to keep the plants well supplied with moisture, provided of course that they can make use of it, and the other is the control of mildew.

Mildew can be easily controlled provided you commence to dust either with Sulphur or Bordeaux Mixture before the trouble starts. To wait until the plants are affected is fatal.

Make dusting a definite part of your routine, do it once a fortnight or, if the weather remains calm, once a month will be sufficient.

In some situations, especially late in the season, many Delphiniums rot at the root. This is due to a fungus disease which spreads rapidly in hot dry soils especially if watering is done spasmodically or half-heartedly.

A mistake which many people make is to imagine that old crowns of the previous season must necessarily produce the largest spikes.

In a climate like ours it is usually these old plants which are most likely to suffer from fungoid diseases and other troubles. Clean, healthy young crowns from late-sown seed are splendid for producing early blooms during the spring, but crowns much older than these are not recommended.



## THE "KUDU" CREAM SEPARATOR.

The "Kudu" Separator is a machine of modern design, built for us by a Swedish firm with 25 years' experience in the manufacture of hand separators. It has all the latest developments and many valuable patents cover improvements in its construction.

### DESCRIPTION OF TYPES NO. 1-4.

**The Skimming Bowl** is of specially large construction in comparison with its rated capacity of work per hour, and, therefore, deals most efficiently with all the milk introduced. It is self-balanced, thus retaining its balance even after being in use for a long time.

**The Discs**, of entirely new patented construction, are fitted with a special strengthening ring at the top, adjacent to the central tube, which obviates wear round this tube and keeps the discs tightly in position. Loose discs seriously affect the balance of the bowl. The "Kudu" Separator bowl, therefore, with these improved discs, keeps its balance for a much longer time than a bowl having discs of the earlier construction.

**The Bowl Spindle** is fitted with an extra metal cone and a spring, which holds it in its true position. It is slightly tapered to the point, on which the bowl fits. Thus the bowl may be put on in any position without damaging either unit and will always be held firmly in place.

**The Milk Container** is made from a single piece of metal plate, and is consequently seamless, with no soldered joints to weaken it nor crevices to harbour dirt.

**The Float** is of modern design and can be placed in the float vessel in any position.

**The Frame** is strongly built and its rounded corners enable it to be kept clean easily.

**The Gearing** is entirely enclosed in the frame, the latter forming a reservoir for the oil in which the worm-wheel rotates. This sprays up oil into all the bearings of the machine. In this way the "Kudu" Separator is provided with constant lubrication. All the wheels have cogs lying obliquely, thus increasing durability of the machine and ensuring smooth running.

**The Cleaning Rod** enables the discs to be removed and treated as one piece and they can be conveniently kept on this rod when not in use.

### THE "KUDU" CREAM SEPARATOR NO. 0.

This machine has been manufactured with a view to supplying a long-felt want of a simple yet reliable and inexpensive separator, especially adapted for small farms, cafés, private households, etc.

Previous attempts have been made at putting a small, cheap separator on the market, but these have generally failed owing to poor workmanship and material.

The "Kudu" Separator No. 0 embodies all the special features of the larger sizes, is equally sturdy in construction and, with its specially improved and simplified bowl, is the ideal machine for its purpose. Like the larger sizes all the vessels are seamless and tinned twice with pure English tin.

**The Bowl** (in which it differs from the larger sizes) consists of two parts only, screwed together with a nut and rendered air-tight by a rubber ring. It is, therefore, quickly and easily cleaned and yet good skimming has been the chief consideration in its construction.

The illustrations on the opposite page, together with the somewhat meagre description that we are able to give in the limited space at our disposal, will surely indicate that this is not a cheap machine in the sense of low value. We have aimed at giving you the very best machine that can be produced and the most suitable for the purpose for which it is designed, and the only thing about it that is cheap is the price which we venture to say is remarkably low.

E.

### THE "KUDU" CREAM SEPARATOR.

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No. 1.	"	17½	"	"	"	£6.
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No. 3D.	"	35	"	"	"	£8 10s. 0d.
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For Cash With Order we will pay the railage to any Station within the Union of South Africa or you can pay the railage and take 5 per cent. discount.



## NOTES FOR RHODESIA FOR JANUARY.

Contributed by MEIKLES (GWELO) LTD.

**The Flower Garden.**—Much pleasure should be derived from the flower garden this month. Annuals are still in good bloom; for Autumn blooming Asters, Stocks, Dianthus, Gilia, Nemesia and Venidium are some of the best.

Trenches for Sweet Peas should be got ready and planted at the end of the month. If the trenches are 24 inches deep and 9 inches of well-rotted manure placed in the bottom, then filled up with good loam, about 1 inch in depth is sufficient to plant the seed; one of the great benefits of deep trenching is to conserve moisture, the manure does this and keeps the plant in growth after the rains have ceased.

Gladioli which have bloomed can be taken up now and planted again in February, then giving a wealth of bloom in May or June.

Cuttings of Carnation should be taken during the month. They should be struck in fine sand, and afterwards transferred to tins or 3in. pots, in good soil. An important point when growing from cuttings—the plants should be stopped when 6in. high; do not plant the rooted cuttings too deeply, cover the roots only, if possible use leaf mould 4 parts, 1 dusty manure, and 1 sand for the potting soil. The border carnations are much improved in latter years, in some cases, if well grown, equal to American Tree.

Chrysanthemums should be coming into flower; to get good blooms disbudding is necessary and should be constantly attended to.

**The Vegetable Garden.**—Seeds of the following, for autumn and winter use, should be planted: Broad Beans, Brussels Sprouts, Cauliflower, Celery, Onions, Parsnip, Savoy, Turnip. Treatment for these is different. Onions, besides well-manured soil, get much benefit from lime; ground for cauliflowers should be trenched and heavily manured; celery is planted in trenches a foot deep with plenty of kraal manure and plenty of water. In frost-free districts Tomatoes can be planted nearly all the year; naturally growth is slow during the winter months, but irrigation is the important point and is necessary.

### RHODESIAN PRICES.

It is obviously impossible to sell our seeds, and other goods, in Rhodesia, at the prices quoted in this paper, but Messrs. Meikles (Gwelo) Ltd. will supply you at the lowest possible prices when railage and similar charges are taken into account. Please communicate with them if you wish for an exact quotation on any article mentioned in these pages.

## *A thought for your garden*

**Y**OUR garden is laid out with care and forethought. A carpet of green, with a background of colour. Do you not think a bird-bath in Table Mountain Stone will complete the picture? Consider how delightful it will be to have a beautiful bird sanctuary. Write or call at Messrs. Chas. Ayres, Adderley Street, Cape Town, for full particulars.

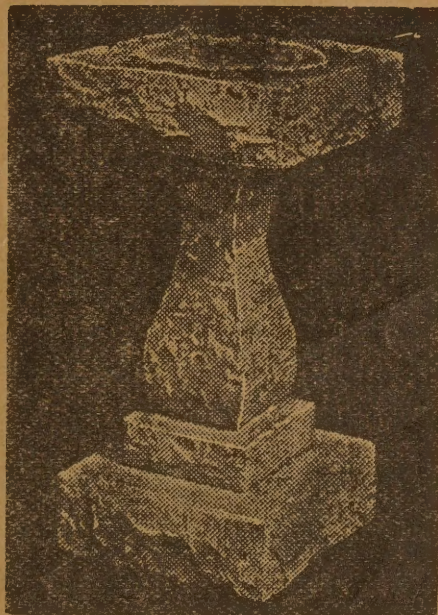
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This is the "Swan Neck" design Bird Bath and is only one of the many beautiful designs obtainable.



## PRETORIA NOTES.

**C. Starke & Co., Ltd., 292 Pretorius Street, Pretoria.**

**Tel. Add.:**

**Telephone:**

**"Seedstarke," Pretoria.**

**2735 Pretoria.**

### PLANTING NOTES FOR JANUARY FROM PRETORIA BRANCH.

The exceptionally heavy rains which fell over a large area in December have paved the way for favourable conditions which should be ensured if we have a little fine weather this month, and that should lead to the extensive sowing of crops for winter fodder.

#### Cereals for Fodder Crops.

(These cheaper grades are not intended for seed production.)

Prices at Pretoria	25	50	100	150	200lbs
Algerian Oats (f.o.r. Cape 10/6 per 150lbs.)	3/-	5/3	9/6	13/6	—
Dun Winter Oats ... ..	3/-	5/3	9/6	13/6	—
Cape Barley (f.o.r. Cape 12/6 per 150lbs.)...	3/3	6/-	11/-	15/6	—
Barley-Wheat, Beardless ... ..	4/3	8/-	15/6	—	30/-
Stooling Rye ... ..	4/3	7/9	14/6	—	27/6

#### Recleaned Cereals for Grain Crops.

Prices at Pretoria	25	50	100	150	200lbs
Algerian Oats (f.o.r. Cape 16/6 per 150lbs.)	3/9	7/-	13/6	19/-	—
Dun Winter Oats ... ..	3/3	5/9	10/6	15/-	—
Sidonian Oats ... ..	3/6	6/3	11/6	16/6	—
Cape Early Barley (f.o.r. Cape 22/6 per 150lbs.) ... ..	4/9	9/-	17/3	25/-	—
Cape Six-Rowed Barley (f.o.r. Cape 21/- per 150lbs.) ... ..	4/6	8/6	16/3	23/6	—
Barley-Wheat, Beardless ... ..	5/-	9/6	18/-	—	35/-

#### Summer Cereals.

Several varieties of Mealies are still available, practically the same as last month, and we have supplies of Sorghums and Millets such as: Early Amber Cane, Common Broom Corn, Sudan Grass (local and imported seed), Boer Manna, Pearl Millet and Japanese Millet, all at favourable prices. We also have supplies of Sweet Corn in the best varieties, such as: Country Gentleman, Stowell's Evergreen, Black Mexican and Burlington Hybrid. It is impossible to print prices of all these; see our new Catalogue and recent issues of "My Garden."

#### Grasses.

All the best grasses for sowing now such as: Rye Grasses, Rhodes Grass, Cocksfoot, etc., will be found listed in our **1934-5 Seed Catalogue** of which a copy has been sent to you. If it has gone astray please ask for another.

#### Legumes.

Lucerne, Clovers, Horse Beans, Mungo Beans, Soy Beans, Velvet Beans, Cowpeas, Field Peas, Dolichos Beans, Peanuts, Sunn Hemp and Vetches (all varieties): all these can be supplied and will be found listed in the Seed Catalogue and in recent issues of "My Garden." Prices are reasonable, consistent with good quality, and we invite your special enquiries.

#### Vegetables.

All varieties are to be found in our Catalogue and there are specially fine lists of Beans and Peas, all the best varieties being represented. We must specially mention "Greenfeast" Peas, one of the best early varieties for the Highveld, which is moderately priced at 60/- per 100 lbs., smaller quantities dearer in the usual proportions. In Beans we just now make the special offer of local Canadian Wonders at 32/6 per 100lbs., smaller quantities as per Catalogue. We also have Tepary Beans which are not listed in the Catalogue, and for these we quote 25/- per 100 lbs. Our Stratagem Peas (imported) are specially grown for us under contract by one of the best growers and are far superior to the ordinary market quality that is universally sold, yet they are very moderately priced in our Catalogue at 55/- per 100 lbs.

#### Flowers.

The following are the principal kinds suitable for January sowing: Antirrhinums, Asters, Balsam, Barberton Daisy, Carnation, Coleus, Dahlia, Delphinium, Geum, Gilia, Helichrysum, Nasturtium, Petunia, Phlox, Portulaca, Scabious, Statice, Stocks, Zinnia.

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